

# Predeparture Passenger Baggage Inspection Notice for Travelers From Puerto Rico to the U.S. Mainland

American agriculture is under constant threat of attack from countless enemies. These enemies are often microscopic and include foreign plant pests and diseases. Every traveler, including those going from Puerto Rico to the U.S. mainland, may unknowingly carry these hitchhikers, which could seriously damage American agriculture.

All passenger baggage traveling from Puerto Rico to the U.S. mainland is subject to inspection. These inspections are conducted by officials of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) prior to your departure. Please be prepared to open and close your own baggage.

If you have agricultural items with you, please tell the inspector. Failure to do so can result in delays and fines of \$1,000 or more.

## **Agricultural Items from Puerto Rico Permitted Into the Mainland** (after inspection)

*Allium* spp. (includes onion, garlic, and chives)  
Amaranth, *Amaranthus* spp. (leaf, stem)  
Anise  
*Annona* spp. (leaf)  
*Arracacia xanthorrhiza*  
Arrowroot  
Artichoke, Jerusalem  
Asparagus  
Avocado  
Balsam apple  
Bamboo shoots  
Banana (fruit, leaf without stalk or midrib)  
Basil  
Bay leaves, laurel  
Beans, shelled (faba, lima, string)  
Beans, in pods (faba, lima, string)—Have geographic restrictions. For complete details, go to

<<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/manuals>>.

Beet  
Bitter melon  
*Brassica oleracea* (includes cabbage, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cauliflower, kale, and collards)  
Breadfruit, *Artocarpus* spp.  
Breadnut  
Cacao bean pod  
Cannonball fruit  
Cantaloupe  
Carrot  
Cassava  
Celery  
Chamomile, *Anthemis* spp.  
Chayote  
Chervil  
Chickory  
Chinese waternut  
*Chrysanthemum* spp. (leaf, stem)  
Cilantro  
Citrus (grapefruit, orange, lemon, lime)  
Coconut  
Collard  
Corn (on the cob only)  
Cornsalad, *Vallerianella* spp.  
Cucumber (includes Angola cucumber, *Sicana odorata*)  
Cyperus corn  
Dandelion greens (leaf, stem)  
Dasheen, *Colocasia*, *Caladium* spp., and *Xanthosoma* spp.  
Eggs  
Eggplant  
Endive  
Ethrog (fruit)  
False coriander  
Fennel  
Flowers (fresh, cut, or dried)  
Genip  
Ginger root  
Gourd  
Guava (leaf)  
Herbs (dried or cured)  
Honeydew melon  
Horseradish, *Armoracia* spp.  
Indigo, *Indigofera* spp.  
Insects (dried or preserved)  
Jackfruit  
Kale  
Kudzu—If not seed, tuberous roots, or stems with node (**must not** be capable of propagation).

Lambsquarter  
 Lemongrass, *Cymbopogon citratus*  
 Leren  
 Lettuce  
 Lily bulb, edible  
 Lotus root  
 Maguey  
 Mangosteen  
 Marjoram, *Origanum* spp. (leaf, stem)  
 Mint, *Mentha* spp.  
 Mushrooms  
 Mustard greens  
 Oregano, *Origanum* spp. (leaf, stem)  
 Palm heart  
 Papaya  
 Parsley  
 Parsnip  
 Pepper  
 Peas, *Pisum sativum* (in pod or shelled)  
 Pet birds—Entry requirements vary depending on the origin of the bird. Please consult USDA–APHIS’ Program Aid No. 1832, “Importing a Pet Bird: Special Rules for Bringing Pet Birds of Non-U.S. Origin Into the United States,” for details on the entry requirements for pet birds.  
 Pineapple  
 Plantain (fruit, leaf without stalk or midrib)  
 Plant cuttings and plants **without** soil  
 Pokeweed greens (leaf, stem)  
 Potato  
 Pumpkin  
 Purslane  
 Radish  
 Rhubarb  
 Rosemary (leaf)  
 Rutabaga  
 St. John’s bread  
 Salsify  
 Savoy  
 Snail shells (if empty and thoroughly cleaned)  
 Sorrel, *Rumex* spp.  
 Spinach  
 Squash  
 Stinking-toe (pod)  
 Strawberry  
 Sweet potato (leaf only)  
 Swiss chard  
 Tamarind bean pods  
 Taro, *Colocasia* and *Caladium* spp.  
 Tarragon  
 Thyme  
 Tomato  
 Truffle  
 Turnip  
 Vegetable marrow  
 Water chestnut  
 Watercress

Watermelon  
 Yam, *Dioscorea* spp.  
 Yautia (tanager), *Xanthosoma* spp.

*Note:* Commercially canned and thoroughly cooked foods are permitted. All permissible agricultural products are subject to inspection.

### **Agricultural Items From Puerto Rico *Not Permitted* Into the Mainland**

Cactus  
 Cotton, cotton cuttings  
 Fruits (fresh)—All fruits are prohibited except those on the preceding list.  
 Insects (live)  
 Plants in soil  
 Seed cotton and cottonseed  
 Snails (land)  
 Seeds or nuts (pulpy)  
 Soil  
 Sugarcane  
 Sweet potato  
 Vegetables (fresh)—All vegetables are prohibited except those on preceding list.

### **Additional Information**

Lists are subject to change. For more information, visit the APHIS Web site at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/manuals> or call the USDA office at the airport:

Aguadilla	(787) 882–3515
Mayaguez	(787) 831–3424, (787) 806–1090/1219
Ponce	(787) 841–3135/3225
San Juan	(787) 253–4638/4651/4652

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual’s income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA’s TARGET Center at (202) 720–2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250–9410, or call (800) 795–3272 (voice) or (202) 720–6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer